

ARMY Declass/Release Instructions On File

1946
X 7/25 Director, Central Intelligence

CPS
X Chief of Operational Services

Planning Directive
No. 40
Cy Ltr fr OHQ, USAFP
dtd 17 May 46

Subject: Status of Psychological Warfare Survey.

1. Planning Directive No. 40, attached as Tab A, designated the Support Branch to make a survey of the problem of psychological warfare in peacetime to ascertain the following:

- a. The relationship of psychological warfare to the intelligence function.
- b. What agencies in the several departments should be responsible for the planning in this matter during peacetime?
- c. What coordination is required and how should it be handled?
- d. What further action, if any, is required of the C.I.G.?

2. The Support Branch completed an informal survey of this problem in which representatives of State, War and Navy participated.

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3. Considerable attention is being given to the problem by non-intelligence agencies. The State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee appointed an ad hoc committee to study and recommend:

a. A peacetime organization for keeping psychological warfare in a ready-for-mobilization status;

b. A wartime psychological warfare organization; both organizations to be assigned such direction as will insure effective planning, coordination and implementation, particularly with respect to the integration of nationwide psychological warfare with military plans.

This ad hoc committee was established by SWNCC 304. A representative of the Support Branch made an informal request to Mr. William Stone, Department of State, steering member of the SWNCC ad hoc committee that the preliminary report of the committee be brought to the attention of the Director of Central Intelligence.

4. Colonel Dana W. Johnston, Chief Propaganda Branch, WDGS, has proposed that this Branch be made a special staff division not responsible to the Director of Intelligence, WDGS, as provided at present by the War Department reorganization plan of 11 June 1946. This recommendation is now under study.

5. A study of the written reports of the European and Pacific Theaters as well as informal opinions of those interviewed (a majority of whom participated in World War II psychological warfare efforts) shows that the problem is of secondary rather than primary intelligence concern.

6. C.I.G.'s interest in this problem is based on the following reasons:

a. Historical development of psychological warfare activities in World War I and II which resulted in most cases in the growth of that activity under an intelligence structure.

b. The information aspects of the program inasmuch as intelligence units are required to furnish material for use in psychological warfare both in peacetime and wartime.

c. The security aspects of the psychological warfare program. The Central Intelligence Group has been given responsibility for the coordination of all matters affecting the security of intelligence sources, methods and operations related to the national security.

7. Continued liaison will be necessary to bring this project to conclusion. It is therefore recommended that the responsibilities under Planning Directive No. 40 be transferred to the Interdepartmental Coordinating & Planning Staff for the purpose of:

a. Insuring that the SWNCC ad hoc committee will submit to the Director of Central Intelligence a copy of the committee's preliminary report for comment.

b. Advising the Director of any further development of C.I.G. interest and directing the problem to the proper C.I.G. office for continuation.